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JUL 24 2001

F A C S I M I L E T R A N S M I S S I O N S C O V E R S H E E T

DATE: July 24, 2001

TO: Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner V. Bui
Group Art Unit: 3739

COMPANY: United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-308-2708 PHONE NO.: 703 306-3420

FROM: Paul A. Coletti

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NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET: 6

COMMENTS: Documents Transmitted: Third Preliminary Amendment

Applicant : R. E. Fischell et al.
Serial No.: 09/609,163 Art Unit: 3739
Filed : June 30, 2000 Examiner: V. Q. Bui
For : STENT WITH IMPROVED FLEXIBLE CONNECTING LINKS
Docket: CRD 0884

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Examiner Bui

Attached are the claims in conformance with the interview of 19 July 2001, which interview is noted with appreciation. As we discussed by phone, I understand you will provide a new list of 16 art references for the record. Please let me know if anything further is required.

Printed Name: Paul A. Coletti

Signature: _____

Date: July 24, 2001

(IF THERE IS A PROBLEM WITH THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL 732-524-2815)

Docket No. CRD-884

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Robert E. Fischell et al.
Serial No. : 09/609,163
Filed : June 30, 2000
Title : STENT WITH IMPROVED FLEXIBLE CONNECTING LINKS

Art Unit : 3739
Examiner : Vy Bui

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile to the
United States Patent Office, addressed to the facsimile number of Technology Center 3700 on.

July 24, 2001
(Date of Deposit)

Paul A. Coletti
(Name of applicant, assignee, or registered representative)

(Signature)

July 24, 2001
(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the specification:

At, page 17, line 14, please insert the following paragraph:

As further seen in Figures 2 and 4-9, but most typically in Figure 8, the flexible links 44 and the curved end segments 73 are arranged in such a fashion so that the stent does not flare upon arterial traversal or expansion. First, links 44 are placed so that a line connecting their proximal and distal ends lie transverse to the longitudinal axis of the stent. Second, the outermost curved segments 41 of the links 44 (that is, where these segments are attached to a curved segment 63, 73 respectively) are joined to these segments at a point where the tangent of the curved end segment is at an acute angle to the longitudinal axis of the stent when taken in the direction of the flexible link 44. The reduced flaring upon expansion created by this structure allows the operator to place the stent by direct stenting, without pre-dilatation of an arterial stenosis. This arrangement may be achieved on each flexible link of the stent along its length.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 33-49, and add the following new Claims: